

Message Text

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R 211759Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

S E C R E T STATE 188246

EXDIS

CINCPAC HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR ADM. GAYLER AND POLAD

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC FROM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

21 SEP 73 (211108Z SEP 73):

QUOTE S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 10108

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, CB

SUBJ: DR. TRAN KY'S CONTACTS IN MOSCOW AND PARIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS MOSCOW AND PARIS

1. PRESIDENT LON NOL'S PRIVATE PHYSICIAN, DR. TRAN KY, HAS PROVIDED MEDTC WITH A SUMMARY OF THE CONTACTS HE HAD WITH GRUNK, SOVIET AND FRENCH OFFICIALS DURING HIS RECENT VISITS TO MOSCOW (TEN DAY) AND PARIS (15 DAY). IN GENERAL HE FOUND GRUNK SPOKESMEN INTRANSIGENT WHILE THE FRENCH AND SOVIETS ALLEGEDLY PROFERRED ADVICE NOT UNLIKE THAT

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WE HAVE BEEN GIVING THE GKR.

2. TRAN KY SAID HIS MEETING WITH "KHMER ROUGE" LEADERS IN MOSCOW ENDED UP IN A SHOUTING MATCH AND THAT NOTHING WAS ACCOMPLISHED. TRAN KY WAS UNABLE TO PROVIDE NAMES OF THESE "KHMER ROUGE" LEADERS OTHER THAN TO CITE THE PRINCIPAL FUNK EMISSARY IN MOSCOW CHEA SAN. (COMMENT: ACCORDING TO OUR FILES CHEA SAN IS A STRONG SIHANOUK SUPPORTER WHO HAS IN THE PAST SHOWN LITTLE AFFINITY FOR COMMUNISM.) AFTER DIRECT TALKS BROKE DOWN, TRAN KY SAID, THE SOVIETS BECAME INTERMEDIARIES FOR THE "KHMER ROUGE," WHO MAINTAINED THAT THERE CAN BE NO NEGOTIATIONS, PHNOM PENH MUST BE DECLARED A FREE CITY AND THE EXISTING GKR LEADERSHIP MUST BE ARRESTED OR EXILED.

3. TRAN KY SAID HE TALKED WITH SECRETARY OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS KUSSAK IN MOSCOW AND FROMENT-MAURICE IN PARIS AND RECEIVED BRIEFINGS FROM UNIDENTIFIED "HIGH" MILITARY OFFICERS IN BOTH COUNTRIES. SOVIET AND FRENCH OFFICIALS ALLEGEDLY SHOWED SOME SYMPATHY FOR THE GKR CAUSE AND ADVISED THAT FANK MUST BUILD UP THEIR DEFENSES IN ORDER TO BRING THE KI TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE. TRAN KY PROVIDED A LIST OF THE DEFENSIVE MEASURES REPORTEDLY COUNSELED BY THE FRENCH AND SOVIETS, WHICH CLOSELY PARALLELS THE PRIORITIES WE HAVE SUGGESTED, AND PROBABLY CONTAINS A LARGE MEASURE OF HIS OWN VIEWS.

4. COMMENT: WHILE TRAN KY'S ACCOUNT OF FUNK REPRESENTATIVES' ATTITUDES IS PROBABLY CORRECT, HIS LACK OF EXPERIENCE WITH SOVIET OFFICIALDOM WOULD LIMIT THE VALUE OF HIS APPRECIATION OF THE USSR POSITION.

5. IN MANY CONTACTS WE HAVE FOUND TRAN KY TO BE INTELLIGENT, SENSIBLE, BUT UNRELIABLE AS A REPORTING OFFICER. HIS CHIEF INTEREST IS IN HIS CLOSE CONNECTION WITH LON NOL. TRAN KY WILL PASS ON HIS SUPPOSED FRENCH AND SOVIET ADVICE TO LON NOL, AND GET A GOOD HEARING. IF THE ADVICE IS AS HE SAYS IT IT, THERE WILL BE NO HARM AND SOME GOOD DONE THIS TIME. BUT WE DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE DR. TRAN KY HAS TO PASS ON THAT HE HASN'T TOLD US.

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6. WE WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THIS CONTACT. ENDERS
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